



STATE OF ARIZONA

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***Highlights of Information on Criminal Aliens Incarcerated in
Federal and State Prisons and Local Jails, United States General
Accountability Office, April 2005***

- In 2005 the United States General Accountability Office (USGAO) conducted an analysis of criminal aliens incarcerated at federal, state and local levels.
- The study focused on the number of criminal aliens incarcerated, the country of citizenship or birth for the incarcerated criminal aliens, and the estimated costs of incarcerating the criminal aliens.
- The following represents some of the astonishing findings of the study:
 - At the federal level, the number of criminal aliens incarcerated increased from about 42,000 at the end of calendar year 2001 to about 49,000 at the end of calendar year 2004—a 15 percent increase.
 - The percentage of all federal prisoners who are criminal aliens has remained the same over the last 3 years—about 27 percent.
 - The majority of criminal aliens incarcerated at the end of calendar year 2004 were identified as citizens of Mexico.
 - The USGAO estimated the federal cost of incarcerating criminal aliens—the cost to the Bureau of Prisons (BOP) to incarcerate criminals and reimbursements to state and local governments under State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) —totaled approximately \$5.8 billion for calendar years 2001 through 2004.
 - Direct federal costs were estimated at \$4.2 billion and federal reimbursements to state and local governments were \$1.6 billion.
 - 5 state prison systems incarcerated about 80 percent of the criminal aliens in fiscal year 2003 – Arizona, California, Florida, New York and Texas.
 - In mid-2004, most of the foreign-born inmates for the 5 state prison systems with the most criminal aliens were born in Mexico.
 - BOP's cost to incarcerate criminal aliens rose from about \$950 million in 2001 to about \$1.2 billion in 2004—a 14 percent increase.